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Winters Enterprise

Volume 23, Issue 34

Thursday, June 27, 2013

Winters, Texas 75c

Close encounters with insects occurring in Runnels Co.



PHOTO: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
Flying ants swarming in a nuptial flight were sighted on Sergeant and 16th St. in Ballinger, Texas.

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

BALLINGER— The transition from spring into summertime is a time of the year when temperatures start rising, some rain is expected and insects start swarming and mating. That combination led last week to three different incidents where humans and insects had close encounters in Runnels County.

Tuesday, June 18, a swarm of bees was reported on Sharp Avenue and Sixteenth Street, in Ballinger. The Runnels County Sheriff's Department

responded to the call just to find out that flying ants were literally flooding the air in a strange mating ritual.

On Wednesday, another call alerted authorities about bees swarming in a house in Wingate. It was the second case of bees swarming in houses in the same area, less than two miles apart.

These close encounters with swarming insects occurred just hours after a thunderstorm poured nearly 3 inches of rain in northern Runnels County and almost one inch of

rain in Ballinger.

Rick Minzenmayer, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service entomologist for Runnels and Tom Green counties, said this insect behavior is not uncommon during this time of the year.

"Harvester ants and several other species of ants swarm over the spring especially after the rains," Minzenmayer said. "They swarm over an existing colony, they might drop their wings and a new queen will start a new colony."

Other species swarming

with reproductive purposes during this time of the year are termites and bees, Minzenmayer said. Termites also develop flying capabilities as part of their reproduction cycle, and they shed their wings once they find a good place to live.

Bees, on the other hand, can be a hazard if not properly handled. Some years ago a resident of northern Runnels County was attacked and killed by a swarm of bees.

"When bees are swarming they do not pose a

PLEASE CONTINUE ON PAGE 2



PHOTOS: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ

Back row left to right: Drey Patton, Sean McGowan, Winters PD officer Paula Geyer, Brady Calcote, Brendon Mikeska, Mason Johnson, Winters PD Chief Nathan Johnson and wife Lenise. Front row: Cody Johnson, Master Instructor Charly Rogers, Carson Hiebert. Not pictured Marcus Mostad.

Paladin takes new challenge... now underwater

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS— Paladin Community Services started this week a new adventure that will take eight local kids to learn new skills, enjoy a challenge and learn about survival and leadership in the process. The youth group is having a summer camp that started this week in town, and will take them to an underwater adventure at Balmorhea State Park, in Balmorhea, Texas.

Under the direction of Charly Rogers, Master Instructor from San Antonio, Texas, these kids are becoming licensed divers. Rogers has been volunteering with Paladin Community Services for over a decade.

The diving class, a total of 32 class-hours, started on Saturday, June 22, 2013 and will finish next Saturday, June 30.

The group started at

the Winters Public Pool and will be traveling for the last part of the instruction to dive into the cool waters of the world's largest spring-fed swimming pool, at Balmorhea. In addition to their Professional Association of Diving Instructors diving license, recognized worldwide, participants of the class will be certified in first aid/first response.

The scuba-diving class teaches these students underwater fundamentals, but they also need to learn how to deal with potentially dangerous situations such as equipment malfunctions and getting tangled underwater.

Winters Chief of Police Nathan Johnson, founder of the youth group, said that this is an effort to bond local kids with law enforcement officials while they learn survival, life and leadership skills.



Winters Chief of Police Nathan Johnson helps his wife Lenise to gear up before going in the water.

Local kids attending the diving class are Drey Patton, Sean McGowan, Mason Johnson, Brady Calcote, Brendon Mikeska, Cody Johnson, Carson

Hiebert and Marcus Mostad. In addition to Chief Johnson also participating are his wife Lenise, and Winters PD officer Paula Geyer.

Man arrested in Ballinger pleads guilty to child pornography charges

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

BALLINGER— James Arthur Abney, 53-years-of-age, of San Angelo, Texas, pleaded guilty last week in a federal court in Lubbock, Texas to one count of possession of child pornography. Abney, whose sentence remains pending an investigation report, is facing up to 10 years in a federal prison and a \$250,000 fine.

According to information released by Sarah R. Saldana, U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas, Abney appeared Thursday, June 20, 2013 before U.S. District Judge Sam R. Cummings. Abney remains in custody. Judge Cummings ordered a pre-sentence investigation report with a sentencing date to be set after the completion of that report.

According to court documents, Abney, while residing in Ballinger, used cell phones to search the Internet for images of child pornography. He saved those images on his phones and downloaded some of the images onto his computer's hard drive.

Abney was arrested by the Ballinger Police Department on charges of possession of child pornography and sent to the Runnels County Jail on Wednesday, January 16, 2013. The man, of no fixed abode, had been staying with kin in Ballinger until the day of his arrest.

The Ballinger Police Department was tipped about the content of his cell phones and hard drive when the man was fixing to leave town. Prior to his arrest Abney was at a convenience store, waiting for the bus when he was approached by officers Ernest Juarez and Chris Sergeant.

Juarez obtained consent to look at Abney's phone and discovered the material. The material included one video and numerous pictures of nude female children.

Ballinger Police Department turned the case to the Immigration and Customs Enforcement for prosecution in the federal court. A second phone was found in Abney's possession also containing pornographic material.

According to the Ballinger Police Department the material was not locally produced, and was all downloaded from the Internet.

The case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative, which was launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice, to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by U.S. Attorney's Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend and prosecute individuals, who sexually exploit children, and identify and rescue victims.

For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit <http://www.justice.gov/psc/>. For more information about Internet safety education, please visit <http://www.justice.gov/psc/> and click on the tab "resources."

The investigation is being conducted by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), the Ballinger Police Department and the Runnels County Sheriff's Office. Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven M. Sucsy is in charge of the prosecution. Besides the jail time and fines, Abney will also be facing a lifetime of supervised release.

Local and area golfers compete at the INDUSTRIAL TOURNAMENT



PAGE 6

Commissioners discuss, disregard rebuilding boat ramp

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

BALLINGER— The Runnels County Commissioners Court approved a subscription to a public online legal library, drew names of candidates to integrate the Salary Grievance Committee, and discussed a petition regard-

ing the condition of the Elm Creek boat launching area at the One-Mile road.

Runnels County Commissioners' Court met Tuesday morning, June 24, 2013 for a regular meeting at the County Courthouse in Ballinger, Texas.

County Judge Barry

Hilliard drew the names of candidates from Grand Jury members to integrate the Salary Grievance Committee. These candidates will be receiving a letter asking them to collaborate with the county. The new committee will be composed of nine members of the public plus

five alternates rather than a combination of county officials and members of the public.

The Commissioners Court discussed a possible burn ban for the unincorporated areas of Runnels County. There is currently no burn ban

PLEASE CONTINUE ON PAGE 2

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FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES

John Best

John Boyd "Bob" Best, Jr., a resident of Victoria, Texas, entered into eternal rest, Saturday, June 22, 2013, at 5 p.m., at his residence surrounded by his loving family at the age of 87 years.

Bob was born, September 23, 1925 in Ranger, Texas, the son of John Boyd Best, Sr., and Nannie Louise Kelly Best. He graduated high school and then went on to proudly serve his country in the United States Army; having fought in World War II. After serving in the Army, Bob began his career as an accountant for Exxon, from which he later retired. On July 10, 1982, Bob married Jeanne Jimerson in Kenedy, Texas. Bob was a former resident of Portland, Texas for many years, later having moved to Choate and settling in Victoria the past 6 years. Mr. Best was also a member of the Masonic Lodge in Portland, Texas.

Mr. Best is preceded in death by his parents; his first wife, Billie Mills Best; his son, Don O. Harvey, III; his sisters Evelyn Wolf and husband Gordon, Elizabeth Kerr and husband Bill and Lois West and husband James and his 2 nephews, Bobby and Jim Kerr. Bob is survived by his beloved wife of 30 years, Jeanne Best of Victoria; his daughters, Carol Calvert and husband Jim of Austin, Maggie Malek and husband Rick of Robstown and Linda Woods of Kenedy and his son, John Harvey and wife Janice of Lansing, Michigan.

He is also survived by his grandchildren, Kelley Hoelscher and husband Daniel, Amy Malek and fiancé, Lucas Thomas, Julie Mumfrey and husband Doug, George Grimes and wife Sara, Heather Guerra and husband Mario, Brian Harvey and wife Ashley and Zachary, Jacob and Sydney Harvey and his great-grandchildren, Evan Hoelscher, Nate and Sam Guerra, Miles and Luke Mumfrey, Jack Grimes, and Isabelle, Dylan, Natalie and Logan Harvey and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m., Wednesday, June 26, 2013 in the Eckols Funeral Home Chapel, Kenedy, Texas. Funeral services will be held, Thursday, June 27, 2013 in the Eckols Funeral Home Chapel with Chaplain Lyman Mereness of Crown Hospice officiating. Interment with Military Honors will follow at 2 p.m., Thursday, in the Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas. Serving as pall bearers will be Bob's grandchildren, Kelly Hoelscher, Amy Malek, Julie Mumfrey, George Grimes, Heather Guerra, Zachary Harvey, Jacob Harvey and Sydney Harvey. A special thanks to Crown Hospice of Victoria and Bob's caregivers, Karen Easley, Linda Barnes, Fannie Curtis, Berta Ramos and Leslie Luna.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to The Winters Public Library; 120 N Main Street, Winters, Texas 79567 or Crown Hospice; 1101 Salem Road, Victoria, Texas 77904.

Winters Enterprise, June 27, 2013

Crash victims lend their faces to anti-drunk driving campaign

WINTERS ENTERPRISE STAFF REPORT

AUSTIN- In an effort to save lives and prevent roadway crashes over the extended Fourth of July weekend, the Texas Department of Transportation is introducing its Faces of Drunk Driving safety campaign to urge motorists to be smart and drive sober. Like all holidays, Independence Day ranks among the deadliest times on our roadways, and last year was no exception with 133 alcohol-related crashes in Texas.

"On average, there is an alcohol-related traffic crash in Texas every 20 minutes," said TxDOT Executive Director Phil Wilson. "Drunk driving crashes are 100 percent preventable and so is the pain that comes with each one."

Throughout the month of July, TxDOT will host Faces of Drunk Driving events across the state at which safety advocates, law enforcement and victims of drunk driving will share their stories in front of 1,170 Texas flags, representing the number of people killed in alcohol-related crashes in Texas last year. More than 9,400 people also were seriously injured in alcohol-related crashes in 2012.

Helping TxDOT deliver this sobering message is 9-year-old Xitclalli "Chilli" Vasquez, who was paralyzed from

the chest down after being hit by a drunk driver in Fort Worth on July 9, 2011 (just three days before her eighth birthday). Also sharing their story is the family of Aaron Pennywell, 20, who was killed by a drunk driver two years ago in Cypress. These stories, along with those of more than a dozen others impacted by drunk driving, can be found at www.FacesofDrunkDriving.com.

"If the possibility of killing yourself or someone else isn't a good enough reason to not drink and drive, you should know that being arrested for DWI also has longstanding, negative consequences," Wilson said. "DWI penalties include jail time, a suspended driver's license and as much as \$17,000 or more in fines, legal fees and other expenses. You and your family can't afford it, so be smart and safe while celebrating the holiday."

Law enforcement around Texas will conduct a "No Refusal" initiative over the Independence Day weekend. "No Refusal" operations allow for suspected drunk drivers to be pulled over and required by law to provide police with a breath or blood sample. Motorists found to be legally intoxicated (with a blood or breath alcohol content of .08 or higher) face arrest and prosecution.

NEWS NOTES

Immunization clinics

The Texas Department of State Health Services will have two immunization clinics in Runnels County. For your convenience, please call to schedule an appointment, if no answer, leave a message.

The clinic in Winters will be from 1:30 to 5:30 Tuesday, July 2, 2013, at the Professional Building, 110 South Main, Suite 108. For your convenience, please use the rear entrance (Grant Street).

The clinic in Ballinger will be from 10 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:30 to 3 p.m. Thursday July 11, 2013, at 608 Strong (behind the Courthouse).

Please bring child's immunization records. If child has Medicaid, please bring card. For more information call (325) 754 4945.

Vet Center Mobile to be in Ballinger on July 11

The Taylor County Vet Center Mobile Outreach Van will be at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave on Thursday, July 11, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Vet Center provides counseling in the areas of readjustment, military sexual trauma, bereavement, marital and family, and substance abuse. Vet Centers understand and appreciate Veterans' war experiences while assisting them and their family to a successful post-war adjustment in their community. Everyone is welcome to stop by for information or services. For more information, call Sandra at (325) 365 3612.

Winters Area Chamber of Commerce meetings

Winters Area Chamber of Commerce meets at 7 p.m., first Thursday of the month at the Lone Star Video, 200 Tinkle Street.

Coleman Co Electric Co-op offering scholarships

Scholarship applications are available to 2013 high school graduates who will be attending a college, technical school or university as a freshman.

Other qualifications are; must be a child of a member, a grandchild of a member or child of a legal guardian who is a member of Coleman County Electric Cooperative. Must reside with the active member and within the Coleman County Electric Cooperative service area. Eligible applicants will be placed in a drawing to be held in July at the cooperative's annual meeting. There will be nine separate drawings, each scholarship totaling \$500.00. Deadline is June 28, 2013. For an application,

visit <http://www.colemanelectric.org> or contact Tony Williams at (325) 625 2128 or tony@colemanelectric.org

TEEA 'Friendly Neighbors'

The Texas Extension Education Agency "Friendly Neighbors" invites everybody in the Winters and Ballinger area who is interested in learning about cooking, gardening and arts and crafts to join us on the fourth Tuesday of every month (except during summer) at 2 p.m. at the Runnels County Extension Office on the corner of South Seventh and Sealy Ave in Ballinger.

If you are interested and like to find out more about us, call Nancy at 325 5042 or Linda 754 5385.

Mentors needed

Winters Elementary School is looking for volunteers to be a mentor on an elementary student. The volunteer would meet with the student once a week during school hours for approximately 30 minutes to help with homework, read a book, or just talk. Mentoring has shown to help build self-esteem, improve grades and in some cases improves test scores. Anyone interested may contact Charles Murphy, Elementary Counselor at 754 5577 ext. 1126.

Cross Emmaus Community gatherings

The Cross Emmaus Community Gatherings held fourth Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m. at the United Methodist Church. For more information call (325) 365 2323.

Winters Women's Club

Members meet the second Tuesday of the month. Call Marlene Smith at 754 4961 for additional information.

AA Meetings

AA meeting are held at 204 W. Truett behind church on Main St. Tuesday and Thursday at 7 p.m.

Ballinger Al-Anon meetings

Al-Anon meetings will be held every Monday and Wednesday at the First United Methodist Church of Ballinger, on Broad Ave. Meetings begin at 7 p.m. Please enter through the south side of the church.

City Council Meetings

Winters City Council meets at 6 p.m. the last Monday of the month at 310 North Main.

Insects: Ants and bees swarming in Runnels Co.

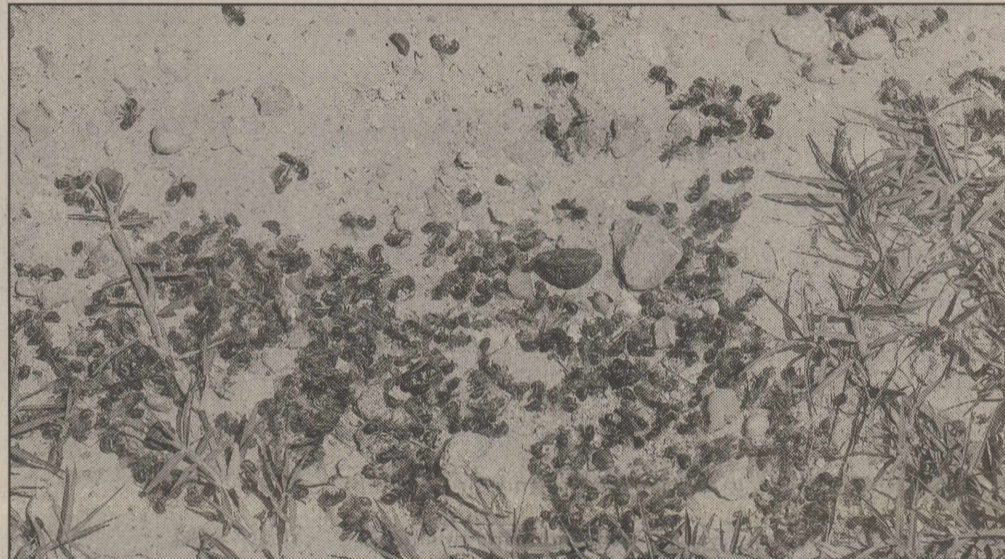
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threat," said Minzenmayer. "They don't have anything to protect and they tend to stay for 36 to 48 hours, while the female is being mated. Once they are done they will disperse and sometimes they will find a good place to stay."

Bees, Minzenmayer added, can be classified in four different species: Africanized bees, European bees, African with European influence, and European with African influence. Africanized bees are much more aggressive than European, swarm year round and overtake European bee colonies.

The difference between these types of bees, Minzenmayer explains, can only be determined by a specialized laboratory under the microscope.

Any type of noise like a lawnmower or tractor disturbs Africanized bees. These insects, also known as "killer bees," can attack farm animals. A potential risk arises to penned up animals when bees find a



Thousands of flying ants lay dead on the ground after performing their mating flight on Sergeant St., in Ballinger.

nice and cozy barn where they decide to swarm and the animals don't have a place to go.

The space between walls and the attic are some other places where bees commonly make their hives. Minzenmayer said that it is not recommended for human beings

to share their living space with bees. Even if the bees have not been aggressive, the colony can be overtaken by Africanized bees and change its behavior.

The best time of the year to get rid of the bees, said Minzenmayer, is right after the winter, when they have consumed most of

their honey reserves, and won't leave that much behind inside the walls.

For more information about bees and other insects contact Rick Minzenmayer, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service entomologist for Runnels and Tom Green counties, at (325) 365 5212.

Commissioners Court: Burn ban not needed at this time

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in effect. Commissioners decided that a burn ban is not needed at this time in Runnels County.

Commissioner Sam Scott presented a complain made by Precinct 3 residents regarding the condition of the Elm Creek One-Mile boat launching area as well as improvements to such location. Discussion was made and commissioners agreed to take no action under the basis of property ownership of such location. The county can only spend funds in county property.

County Attorney Ken Slimp presented a petition to consider an amendment to the subscription of the Lexis-Nexis plan for public access to the online County Le-

gal Library. A motion was made and the petition was approved unanimously. The access terminal to the legal library is located at the County Attorney offices, in the Runnels County Courthouse.

The Commissioners Court heard a presentation from Craig Geherels, on behalf of Colonial Life Insurance, regarding employee supplemental insurance benefits.

The Commissioners Court also discussed the inter-local agreement between Runnels County and the cities of Ballinger, Winters and Miles. Following the County Attorney's advice, the court agreed to adhere to the clauses specified in the contract, which limit

the county's participation to paving services only. In the past, some cities have benefited from the county purchasing materials with the cities reimbursing the county at a later date.

The County Attorney also recommended the court to be specific with the location and extension of the paving projects under contract with the cities, and to present that information to the Commissioners Court for approval.

County Judge Barry Hill-

iard reported that he has been in contact with the County Judge in Stephens County on regards of the medical bill of an inmate that was transferred from Breckenridge to Abilene to Ballinger. The inmate sustained neck injuries and was sent to Shannon Medical Center in San Angelo. The hospital issued a bill for almost \$35,000 to Runnels County. Authorities in Runnels County believe that the inmate sustained the injuries before being taken to the local jail-house.

The Manley & Perkins families would like to thank the community for pulling together in helping out Martha Manley's family in their time of need. Everything was greatly appreciated and we are so blessed to have a community as we do.

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Z.I. Hale meeting brings back old memories



PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED
Mary (Sug) Rowland Lawhon, a WHS graduate, and former resident of the Rock Hotel.

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

WINTERS- The Z.I. Hale Museum held their annual meeting on June 11, 2013 at the Rock Hotel. The meeting began with Mary (Sug) Rowland Lawhon, a graduate of Winters High School, speaking about being a child coming into town, with all the grand things a child could want: Theaters, stores, and a school within walking distance.

Sug, her parents, and her brother moved into the Rock Hotel where her mother managed the hotel. Her stories were enjoyed by the Directors and Associate Directors of the hotel, visitors and some of her classmates.

Directors and Associate Directors were voted in for the year. Directors: Wanda Brewer, Kay Colburn, Ruth Cooper, Naomi Gerhart, Bobby Mayo, Elaine Miller, Theresa Patterson, Betty Jane Byrns, and Alton O'Neal. Associate Directors: Joyce Broadstreet, Joyce Carbery, Jill Davis, Randall Davis, Shelly and Lupe Guevara, Marvin Jones, Ouida Nichols, Marianne Ray, Gina Santoya, Star Smelker, and Art Taylor.

The next project for the museum is the Blue Gap Post Office. Work has started; watch for the log cabin going up between the Winters Public Library and the AC Nutrition building.

The Z.I. Hale Museum Board meets monthly on the last Thursday of the month. Visitors are always welcome.



In this photo taken by Brenda Hines, of Bronte, Texas, the Z.I. Hale Museum members holding their annual meeting.

Coleman Co. Electric returns capital credits in excess of \$1.1 million

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

COLEMAN- Coleman County Electric Cooperative will return in excess of \$1,100,000 in capital credits this month. Since 2008, the cooperative has retired over \$2.5 million back to its member/owners.

"This is the business model of an electric cooperative" said General Manager Roland Witt. "We are a non-profit, member owned cooperative. This is one of the most important distinctions that set an electric cooperative apart from a for-profit entity."

"Unlike other business models that work for Wall Street," Witt said, "a cooperative is locally owned and is concerned about Main Street."

Coleman County Electric Cooperative is proudly celebrating its 75th year anniversary.

Central Texas Farm Credit stockholders re-elect board member

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

COLEMAN- Stockholders of Central Texas Farm Credit have re-elected Kenneth Harvick to the cooperative's board of directors. As a member of the 6-person board, he will represent the interests of his fellow stockholders in Central and North-Central Texas.

A member of the co-op since 1999, Harvick has served on the board since 2012. He is the former president of Gore's, Inc., an agricultural business consisting of dairy cows, beef cattle and a feed-manufacturing business, and is the current owner of a cow/calf operation in Comanche County. Previously, Harvick was president of the Texas Holstein Association, a member of the Comanche School Board, the Comanche County and Texas Dairy Herd Improvement Association boards, and the Select Milk Producers board. He is a member of the First Baptist Church in Comanche and the Lions Club.

Harvick will serve a three-year term on the Central Texas Farm Credit board, which also includes Chairman Jerry Don Klose, Vice Chairman Robby A. Halfmann, Mike Finlay, Philip W. Hinds and Burl D. Lowery.

Central Texas Farm Credit finances farm and ranch land, agribusiness operations, rural land and homes, and recreational property in its 20-county area. The Coleman-headquartered cooperative has branch offices in Brady, Brownwood, Coleman, Comanche, Haskell and San Angelo. It is part of the nationwide Farm Credit System.

CAFETERIA MENU
Subject to Change*

Winters ISD Breakfast Menu

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ACROSS

- Errant golf shot's destination, perhaps
- Chap, in Chelsea
- Sound of hesitation
- Like wicker baskets
- Decorated Murphy
- Gardner on screen
- Offering in bulk
- Sportscaster Barber
- Multiplied by three
- Ranch employee
- Event for scullers
- Owens of track fame
- WWII losers
- Wrestling hold
- Musician's job
- Cut into
- Stash overhead
- Enjoy with relish
- Tweed twitter Thomas
- Item in "Poor Richard's Almanack"
- Be less than candid
- Developing nations, collectively
- TV watcher's seat
- Throws a fit
- Aerie youngsters
- Picnic intruders
- "You Cannot Be Serious" tennis great
- Presidential nickname
- Ship part reserved for officers
- Sardine holder
- "What's it all about?" guy
- White-plumed wader
- Get firm
- Dutch painter Jan
- Does a casino job
- Poverty, symbolically
- Illuminated sign
- Computer acronym about faulty data
- "The West Wing" president
- Part of a voting machine
- To's partner
- Hide-hair link
- ___ and all (as is)
- Quiet time
- Back then
- Skin lotion ingredient
- Search carefully
- Tetley products
- Letters on a shingle
- Geneticist's study
- Tearjerker take-along
- Firmly fixed
- Pre-Easter
- The brave do it
- Heavy hammer
- Wounded in Pamplona
- Prefix meaning "many"
- Place for espresso
- Canal opened in 1825
- ___ in "queen"
- Big Band
- Cartoon collectible
- Some chess pcs.

DOWN

- URL part
- "How exciting!"
- Ab ___ (from day one)
- River mouth formations
- "Hagar the Horrible" dog
- Nursery rhyme opening
- Quiet time
- "Garfield" dog
- Warm-hearted
- Brain-wave test, briefly
- Bother, no end
- "Still, ..."
- Drive insane
- Clockmaker Thomas
- Lady of Troy

American Profile Hometown Content 6/16/2013

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER GRID

"I've Been Robbed!"

G	A	G	A	M	E	R	E	S	P	E	L	L		
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Weather Whys

Q: The severe storms that hit the Northeast recently were called derechos? What is a derecho?

A: A derecho is a severe windstorm that usually forms along a cluster of thunderstorms, explains Brent McRoberts of Texas A&M University. "The word is derived from the Spanish word meaning direct or straight," McRoberts says. "Derechos are often formed with bow-shaped thunderstorms but they produce strong straight-line winds up to 150 miles per hour. The storm system associated with derechos usually moves quickly, often at 50 miles per hour and a few have been clocked at 70 miles per hour. They can also last a long time and move through several states. So a derecho can be a very powerful storm."

They can occur anywhere, but are most often seen in the Midwest and the prairie states, and they can form either in the daytime or at night.

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Runnels County ROUND-UP

4 Winters Enterprise

Thursday, June 27, 2013

THE ORGANIZATION OF RUNNELS COUNTY

Land sales and new roads start developing in a young county

CONTRIBUTED BY RUTH COOPER
RCHC CHAIRPERSON

WINTERS- April 3, A.D. 1882, was the date for the Honorable Commissioners Court of Runnels County to meet. It was a called term with the Honorable Judge Sylvester Adams presiding with all four commissioners, Precincts 1 through 4, N.W. Dean, W.G. Preston, T.L. Odom, and Phil S. Turner in that order present. Also present was Sheriff J.M. Formwalt and County Clerk W.N. Copeland along with W.L. Towner, Deputy. The minutes were read and approved. The sale of the Runnels school land (three leagues sold by L.N. Taylor) was approved and his notes were accepted for the same. The court wanted the two notes for the land be turned over to the County Treasurer, Mr. Hightower and the Clerk needed to record all in the minutes of the court.

The first note was for 10 years, the sale of two leagues for \$3,259.06. The interest was at the rate of 8 percent per annum from date until paid. The third league of land sold for \$1,629.53 with the interest rate of 8 percent per annum until

paid. These leagues were in Crockett County, and the notes begin July 1, 1882 with the first payment due then and paid to the Runnels County Treasurer. The court then approved the report of Mr. Hightower.

The court paid some of the accounts they owed. They paid \$3 to Mr. J.H. Carpenter for a table for the County Surveyor's office; they paid Mr. W.J. Hightower the Treasurer, for three successive issues for \$10 in the Runnels County paper; they paid \$2.80 for materials furnished for a table to Mr. Guy and Mr. Baker; Mr. W.L. Towner was paid \$2 for one load of wood; the account of Mr. H.D. Pearce for stationery in the amount of \$8.15 was paid; Mr. H.D. Pearce, W.L. Towner, J.P. Freeman, I.W. Hathaway and T.M. Cotton were paid \$2 each for holding an election in Justice Precinct 5 for or against the stock law held at Runnels City, Texas March 18, 1882.

The Treasurer's Report was given and showed a total received of \$1,265.54 since May 26, 1881. The total included taxes and fines collected, and sale of lots in Run-

nells City. The report was approved. With no further business, the court adjourned until the next regular term, May 8, A.D. 1882.

The Honorable Runnels County Judge, Sylvester Adams presided when the Court met May 8, 1882. All four commissioners were present along with Sheriff J.M. Formwalt, and W.N. Copeland, County Clerk. The first item of business was the old road known as the Road to San Antonio "which runs from Fort Chadbourne in Runnels County by the mouth of Valley Creek in this county and on toward San Antonio, Texas" be discontinued and declared no longer a public road.

The court received a petition with a sufficient number of sheep men and signed that Mr. Frank Chrisman be appointed Sheep Inspector in and for Runnels County. The court adjourned for the day to meet at 8 o'clock May 9, 1882. The first order for the day was to set Mr. Frank Chrisman's bond at \$1,500 as Sheep Inspector. The court then paid some accounts. William Hastetler was paid

\$2 per day for 3 days for the Grand Jury Room at the Spring Term of District Court in Runnels County. The total was \$6. The court paid the account of Sheriff J.M. Formwalt, a total of \$3.25 for one load of wood at \$1.50, one bucket for the court house at \$.25, three meals for a prisoner during District Court at \$1.50.

The Ad Valorem Tax for Runnels County was fixed at one-half the amount of the State of Texas for the year A.D. 1882.

There would be a special tax levied and collected at the rate of one-fifth of 1 percent for public building purposes for the year A.D. 1882.

The court again acknowledged the account of Mr. H.D. Pearce for stationery and work on the sale of town lots in Runnels City. This was a total of \$7.75. The account of W.N. Copeland included acknowledgements for town lots, stamps and other supplies for a total of \$10.10. Various other orders included approving the report of the County Treasurer, overturning the Justice Precinct 5 and include as originally in Precinct 1. The acting Justices of the Peace have concurrent

jurisdiction as was originally laid out. An election would be held at Runnels City with W.G. Green as the officer for Precinct 1. The Precinct 2 election was held at the William Wilson residence where he was appointed returning officer. Mr. R.C. Tilley was appointed returning officer in Precinct 3. For Precinct 4, Henry C. Wylie was appointed returning officer. The election was held at the Wylie Ranch House.

The Justice of the Peace in Precinct 2 would hold court the first Saturday of each month at Buck Creek School House.

The Justice of the Peace in Precinct 3 would hold his court on the second Saturday in each month. The Commissioners Court would begin requesting bids to let a contract to build a fence beyond the court house square in the Town of Runnels City. The fence post would be cedar, not less than 4 inches square, 6 foot in length with boards 1 by 6 by 16-foot long, two to each rod. Also two barbed wires to each rod, galvanized of the best quality, No. 9. The post would need to be in the ground 20-24 inches deep. They

need to be square on the top and of uniform height with capping one inch thick. There would be four gates with a 4-foot opening. The County Clerk was authorized to receive bids from parties wishing to build the fence subject to the approval of the County Commissioners at the next regular term.

The court empowered the Sheriff, J.M. Formwalt to enforce the non-payment of fines and forfeitures in misdemeanors and petty offenses, also who should be committed to jail in defiance of payments of the fines and cost adjusted against fines paid. They could be adjusted by removing the dirt away from the public well or off the Public Square in Runnels City to any place on the streets discussed with the sheriff or officer in command. The Court then issued the pay to each officer and court was adjourned until the next regular term.

Resources:
Runnels County Historical Commission Histories, Runnels County Commissioners Court, Called Term, April 3, 1882, May 8, 9, A. D. 1882, County Clerk Records.

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FSA County Committee nominations are under way

WINTERS ENTERPRISE
STAFF REPORT

BALLINGER- County Committee election nominations began on June 17, 2013, announced Runnels County USDA Farm Service Agency Executive Director Byron A. Bauerlein. Farmers, ranchers and landowners are encouraged to nominate candidates to serve on their local FSA county committee by the August 1, 2013 deadline.

Elected County Committee members serve a

three-year term and are responsible for making decisions on FSA disaster, conservation, commodity and price support programs, as well as other important federal farm program issues. County committees are comprised of three to 11 members.

"County Committees are unique to FSA and are instrumental in all aspects of federal farm program implementation at the local level," said Bauerlein.

Producers may nominate

themselves or others as candidates. Organizations that represent minority and women farmers and ranchers may also nominate candidates. Nominees must participate or cooperate in a program administered by FSA, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area in which the person is a candidate. To become a nominee, eligible individuals must sign form FSA-669A. The form and more

information about county committee elections are available online at: www.fsa.usda.gov/elections.

"It is important that county committees are comprised of members who fairly represent the diverse demographics of production agriculture for their community," said Bauerlein. "All producers, including women, minority and beginning farmers and ranchers are encouraged to participate in the nomination and election process."

Nomination forms must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on August 1, 2013.

FSA will mail ballots to eligible voters beginning November 4. The ballots are due back in the local county office by mail or in person no later than December 2. All newly elected County Committee members and alternates will take office January 1, 2014.

For more information about county committees, please contact the Runnels County FSA office at (325) 365 5757 or visit www.fsa.usda.gov.

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Veteran's Corner

A new law requires the VA to compile a registry of troops and veterans exposed to toxic fumes from pits where waste was burned in Iraq and Afghanistan. Veteran's organizations have endorsed this registry as a way to document the damage and perhaps draw correlations between burn pits and certain health conditions. If you were exposed during your service, contact the VA. For more information, contact Sandra at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave or call (325) 365 3612.

Sandra G. Van Zant
Veterans County Service Officer
P.O. Box 108
Ballinger, TX 76821

PHONE (325) 365-3612
E-MAIL rcvso@wtxs.net

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Area golfers take the course at the Industrial Tournament

RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
WINTERS ENTERPRISE

WINTERS- Saturday, June 15, 2013, area golf enthusiasts attended the annual celebration of the Industrial Tournament held at the Winters Country Club. The tournament started with two tee times at 8 a.m. and at 2 p.m.

The tournament was played with three-player teams. Players also enjoyed a meal.

Placing first in the Championship Flight was the Atmos Energy team. Playing for Atmos Energy were Connie Mac Gibbs, Donnie Gibbs and Roger Guerrero. The second place was for Riley Trucking - Chad Briley, Jarrod Briley and Devin Martinez. Martin Martinez, Junior Garcia and Dean Otte earned third place honors with Vitraccoat America.

In the First Flight placing first was Coleman Country Electric, team comprised by Al Nunez, Kyle Wood and Sage Brooks. Donica Roustabout - Tena Martinez, Donovan Martinez and Devon Martinez claimed second. The third place was for Kenny Gibbs, Mark A. and H. Martinez, playing for Lone Star Oil Company.

Cinta's squad claimed first place of the Second Flight. Playing for Cinta's were Cody Slaughter, Brandon Davis and Manuel D. Team K.W. Sharp earned second place with Sherry Gilmore, Virginia Ochoa and Monica Sanchez. The third place was for Doty's Tire Shop - Kenneth Doty, Jerry Mac Jackson and Curtis Jackson.



PHOTOS: RUBEN CANTU-RODRIGUEZ
Chad Briley, of Winters, taking an approach shot on hole No. 4.



Mike Funderburg, of Coleman.



Curtis Jackson, of Winters.



Donnie Gibbs, of Menard, putts on hole No. 4. Gibbs and teammates Connie Mac Gibbs, of Winters, and Roger Guerrero, of Menard, placed first in the Championship Flight.



David Montoya teeing off on hole No. 1.



Jarrod Briley



Devin Martinez

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